



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Indiana**

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HOGSETT PRESENTS U.S. ATTORNEY'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO RIGHTS OF VICTIMS TO DETECTIVE MIKE WARD

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - In celebration of National Crime Victim's Rights Week, Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, today recognized Detective Mike Ward, Columbus Police Department, as a recipient of the United States Attorney's Carol S. Morris Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Rights of Victims.

This is a special award given annually by the United States Attorney's Office to honor individuals whose commitment and effort impacts the lives of crime victims in Indiana. It reflects the nation's heightened awareness of the devastating impact of crime and violence on its victims, while underscoring the importance of helping victims heal and rebuild their lives.

Detective Mike Ward wears many hats. In addition to being a detective with the Columbus Police Department and a teacher at the high school, this past year he has served as a member of the Bartholomew County Domestic Violence Action Team, SafeDates Presenter at Middle Schools, helped implement Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment; attended and helped organize Not on Our Ice event; served as a panel member at a Domestic Violence Movie Event; and presented at the 2010 Indiana School Counselor Association Conference. Deputy Prosecutor Kelly Benjamin describes Mike in this way, "his kindness and concern for others is displayed on a daily basis to those he works with and those he helps. He not only cares about and addresses the concerns, needs and rights of victims, but he goes further to offer education and prevention to try to support and help them. He is an 'Outstanding Hoosier' and is deserving of this award."

The U.S. Attorney's Award was established in the Southern District of Indiana in 1991 to recognize those persons who have made significant contributions in the lives of crime victims. The mission of National Crime Victim's Rights Week is to provide a time of nationwide

remembrance, reflection and re-commitment for crime victims, survivors and those who serve them in order to raise individual and public awareness about the rights and needs of victims.

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